

Health Care System and Health Care Security Board Summary of Meeting on July 12, 2002

The Health Care System and Health Care Security Board met on Friday, July 12th in Room 427, State House. The meeting was called to order by the Chairs, Senator Martin and Representative Volenik. The minutes of the June 24th meeting were accepted.

Funding and Budget Update

Board budget. The Board has a balance of \$2942.87 remaining in its Legislative account. To date, the Board also has \$34,305 in its dedicated revenue account. Staff is working with the Executive Director's Office to process financial orders through the Bureau of the Budget to allow those funds to be used for data collection and other expenses of the Board.

Maine Health Access Foundation Grant. The Maine Health Access Foundation will make a formal decision and announcement of its award decisions on Wednesday July 17th. Dr. Wendy Wolf, Executive Director of the Foundation, attended our meeting to further evaluate the Board before the Foundation makes its announcement. *On July 17th, the Foundation announced a \$200,000 grant to the Health Security Board. As part of the grant award, the Foundation will work as an active partner with the Health Security Board in the feasibility study process. With the agreement of Senator Martin and Representative Volenik, the Foundation has appointed one of the Foundation Board members as a liaison who will be taking part in the Health Security Board's discussions on an ongoing basis. Charlene Rydell has graciously agreed to serve in the liaison role and will participate in our meeting on July 22nd. Many of you may know Charlene. Currently, she is Health Policy Advisor in the Office of Congressman Tom Allen. In a former life, she served as a Legislator and Chair of the Banking and Insurance Committee. She has extensive knowledge of health care policy in Maine and nationally.*

Use of Maine Health Management Coalition Database

The Board received a letter from the Maine Health Management Coalition granting the Coalition's permission to access aggregate information from their employer claims database in connection with the feasibility study. The consultant chosen by the Board will work with the Maine Health Management Coalition and the Maine Health Information Center to identify aggregate claims data necessary for use in the study.

Evaluation of Proposals

Using the evaluation criteria as a guide, the Board discussed and compared the proposals to assess whether the proposals meet the Board's expectations. Individual board members facilitated discussions in the key evaluation areas: 1) the approach/quality of the model (Beth Kilbreth); 2) work plan/timeline (Frank Johnson); 3) accessibility and communication (Frank O'Hara); 4) references and experience with state governments (Sen. Martin and Rep. Volenik); 5) evaluation of prior studies/expertise (Richard Wexler/Victoria Kuhn).

After extensive discussion, the Board reviewed the 5 proposals and narrowed the selection of the consultant down to 2 finalists: The Lewin Group and Mathematica. The Board also decided to conduct conference call interviews with the finalists during the morning portion of the meeting on July 22nd. Follow up questions will be forwarded to the consultants before the meeting. Additional questions may also be generated during the telephone discussions. After those interviews, the Board will break so that individual members can evaluate and score the finalists. During the afternoon portion of the meeting, the Board will make its final selection of a consultant.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held Monday, July 22nd at 9:30 am. The agenda will focus on making the final selection of a contractor for the feasibility study. Conference call interviews will be scheduled for the morning portion of the meeting. In the afternoon, the Board will review and discuss the finalists and make an award decision.